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SECRET  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

16 March 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, U. S. INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Consolidation of the U.S. Intelligence Board with the  
U. S. Communications Security Board

Recently you and I discussed the possible consolidation of the U. S. Intelligence Board with the U. S. Communications Security Board by abolishing the latter and reassigning its functions to USIB. This is a proposal that has come up periodically over the years, beginning with the Hoover Commission Report in 1955.

In order to guide my thinking in determining a course of action, I requested the members of USCSB to submit in writing their views with respect to a possible merger of the two Boards. These replies have now been received and are generally in opposition to such a proposal.

Most members, particularly the military, had strong views on the subject, and the almost unanimous opposition was based primarily on the different responsibilities in the COMSEC and COMINT fields, the communications aspects involved in COMSEC, and separate functional and operational lines within their departments and agencies.

This proposed action has already been voted down on several occasions in the past. I consider the arguments put forward by the USCSB members to be valid, and consequently, in view of the strong views of the Security Board, recommend that we take no further action on this matter at this time.

*James B. Erskine*  
GRAVES B. ERSKINE  
General, USMC (Ret)  
Chairman, USCSB

OSD REVIEW COMPLETED

SECRET

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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*Wheeler*

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Noted by [redacted]  
19 MAR 1960  
*(Rec'd 3/21/60)*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles:  
General Cabell

Copies of this memorandum have already  
been sent to [redacted] and Bob Amory for their  
information.

ER for [redacted]

[redacted] 17 March 1960  
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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